

Contributions of the Custer Gallatin National Forest

- Essential part of one of the largest nearly intact ecosystems in the lower 48 states; the Greater Yellowstone Area.
- Most of the native fauna still roam, leading to renowned wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities.
- Internationally renowned blue ribbon fishing opportunities.
- High quality scenery, including the Beartooth Highway, a National Scenic Byways All-American Road, *"the most beautiful drive in America"* (traveling CBS journalist Charles Kuralt).
- Water source for downstream agriculture and municipal use.
- Clean air
- Wide variety of recreational opportunities including hiking, driving for pleasure, skiing, snowmobiling, biking, motorized trail use, horseback riding, and camping.
- Infrastructure and developed facilities that provide access for recreation, cultural and geologic interpretation, and education.
- Only palladium mines in the United States. Palladium is used in catalytic converters and so contributes to air quality.
- Forage for livestock grazing; one of the biggest district level grazing programs in the country.
- Timber harvested on the Forest is a critical supply chain for sawmill, log home, and post and pole production companies located within the supply-reach of the Forest.
- Firewood.
- Economic contributions related to grazing, timber, minerals and opportunities for businesses such as outfitter guides and resorts.
- Utility infrastructure such as powerlines and pipelines that transfer energy to residences and communities.
- Cultural and historic sites preserved for human use and enjoyment.
- Scientific and educational opportunities of unique paleontology (dinosaur bones).